

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
6 October 2005 (06.10.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/092915 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: C07K 1/14,
C12N 9/26

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2005/005150

(22) International Filing Date: 18 February 2005 (18.02.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/548,405 27 February 2004 (27.02.2004) US

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR REMOVING WATER FROM AQUEOUS SOLUTIONS OF PROTEINS

(57) Abstract: A method for extracting water from an aqueous solution of a protein comprising the steps of: (a) intermixing the aqueous solution of the protein with a sufficient quantity of at least one glycol ether at a temperature at least 30 centigrade degrees above the lower critical solution temperature (LCST), preferably at least 20 centigrade degrees above the LCST, and most preferably at least 10 degrees above the LCST, to form a suspension comprising a concentrated aqueous protein phase and a liquid organic phase comprising said at least one glycol ether and at least 10 percent water extracted from the aqueous solution of the protein, wherein the glycol ether has an inverse solubility in water, with the proviso that the solubility of the glycol ether in water is significantly less than the solubility of water in the glycol ether, and the glycol ether does not significantly deactivate the protein, and is (b) separating the concentrated aqueous protein phase formed in step (a) from at least a portion of the liquid organic phase.

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